

"The Children's Collaborative"



Mission



To advise the Guilford Center LME of system barriers and gaps in services for children under the age of 18 years, and families with significant mental health needs across multiple human service systems such as child welfare, juvenile justice, education, health and mental health.



Mission



To engage in problem solving to address these needs and build local community capacity to provide effective, community-based, family and youth-driven services that are delivered within a System of Care philosophy on the behalf of children and families with significant mental health needs.



Mission



To promote public awareness of System of Care Principles and Values as a best practice guideline.

To serve in an advisory capacity to the Guilford Center with recommendations for service needs to be incorporated into the Children's Mental Health Community Collaborative Advisory Committee's annual budget.

Members



The voting members of the Children's Mental Health Collaborative include representatives from the Department of Social Services, Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Guilford County Schools, Department of Public Health, local universities, parents, and community mental health provider agencies serving youth with mental health and substance abuse issues. There are Memoranda of Agreement with the child serving systems that are involved.



Partnership

Youth Villages' New Day Transitional Living Program



- Youth Villages' Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) program was well established in Guilford County prior to this contract with New Day Program.
- A benefactor wanted to expand the Tennessee program into North Carolina and would match Collaborative funding.

Partnership

Youth Villages' New Day Transitional Living Program



- The Collaborative identified transitional youth ages 16 to 18 as a service gap that needed additional services and recommended funding for this population.
- Traditional service billing codes often limit time-intensive services such as client engagement and the case management activities this population requires for success.

Partnership

Youth Villages' New Day Transitional Living Program



- Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Guilford Center often “shared” youth involved in both systems.
- Negotiations with local system Directors, the LME Contracts Unit, supervisors, the System of Care Coordinator, and Youth Villages Administration resulted in a viable partnership plan.

Partnership

Youth Villages' New Day Transitional Living Program



Benefits:

- The Collaborative was able to fund services for youth ages 16 through 17 years, 11 months.
- Benefactor matched funding, with no restrictions on the funding stream and can serve youth 18 to 21 years old.

Funding Streams



- The Collaborative funded the first seven months of services for \$118,000 from Dec. 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.
- The Department of Social Services (DSS) funded the second year of contract from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.
- Benefactor from Tennessee provided matching dollars both years.



First Years Overview



- Collaborative funded 12 slots for youth ages 16 years to 17 years, 11 months.
- Matching revenue from benefactor and Youth Villages carries no age restriction on funding stream and served youth 16 to 21 years for the remaining slots.
- 25 total slots for youth were funded.
- Close monitoring of the program ensured operation at full capacity and included development of a waiting list.



Issues at Referral



First year referral issues included:

- Unstable housing
- Needed employment
- Dropped out of school and was homeless
- Family conflict
- Needed basic assistance (food stamps, Medicaid, etc)
- Pregnant and in a violent relationship
- Resided with abusive parent
- Was failing school
- Legal issues
- Off psychotropic medications and unstable
- Suspended from school
- Experienced significant grief issues
- Needed help in accessing adult living facility
- Needed help with employability skills.



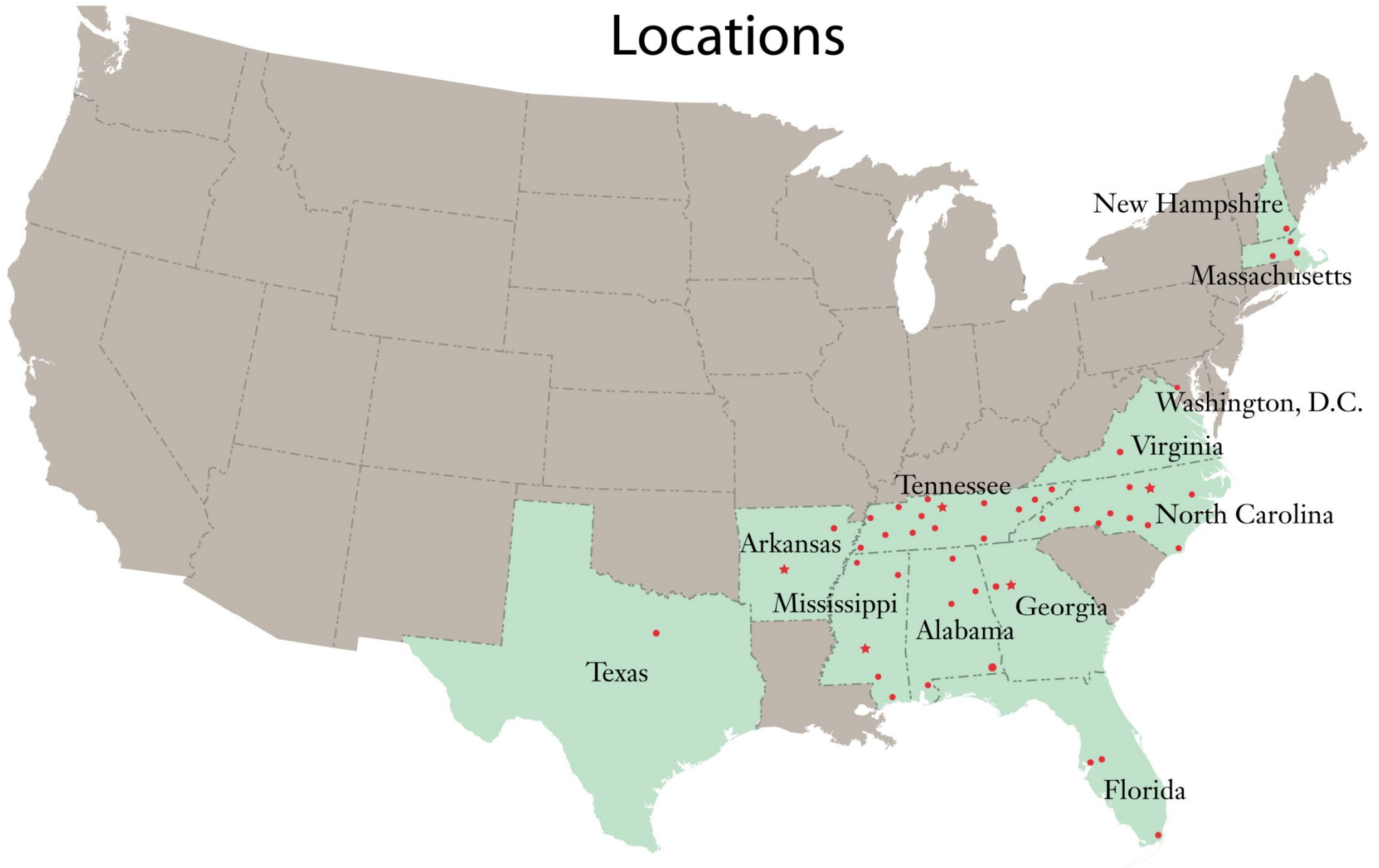
Transitional Living Program

www.youthvillages.org



YouthVILLAGES™

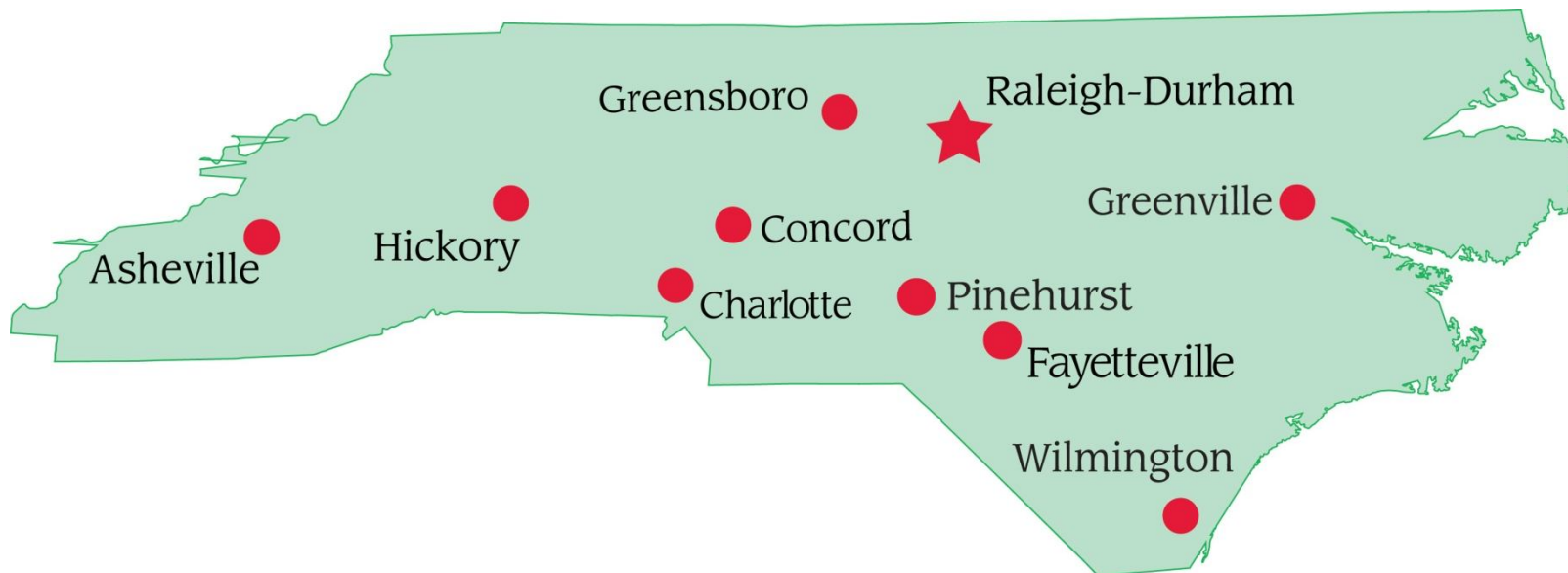
Locations





Youth Villages North Carolina

- The first Youth Villages offices in North Carolina opened in 2005 and provides Multi-Systemic Therapy to children and families, with Transitional Living starting in the state in December of 2008.
- The Youth Villages Transitional Living program is currently serving young people in Durham, Wake, Guilford and Catawba Counties.



www.youthvillages.org

- Created in 1999 with a grant from The Day Foundation
- Designed to help youth between the ages of 17 and 22 who are making the transition out of state custody into an independent life
- Systemic approach that incorporates multiple aspects of the youth's natural ecology (community, peers, family, school in addition to their personal characteristics)
- Strength-based approach to treatment

- Transitional Living Specialists have extremely high levels of training and supervision
- Caseloads of only 8-10 young adults per TL Specialist
- 1 to 2 sessions per week conducted in the community or as intensity dictates.
- 24/7 on call support to clients
- Average 6-9 months per case

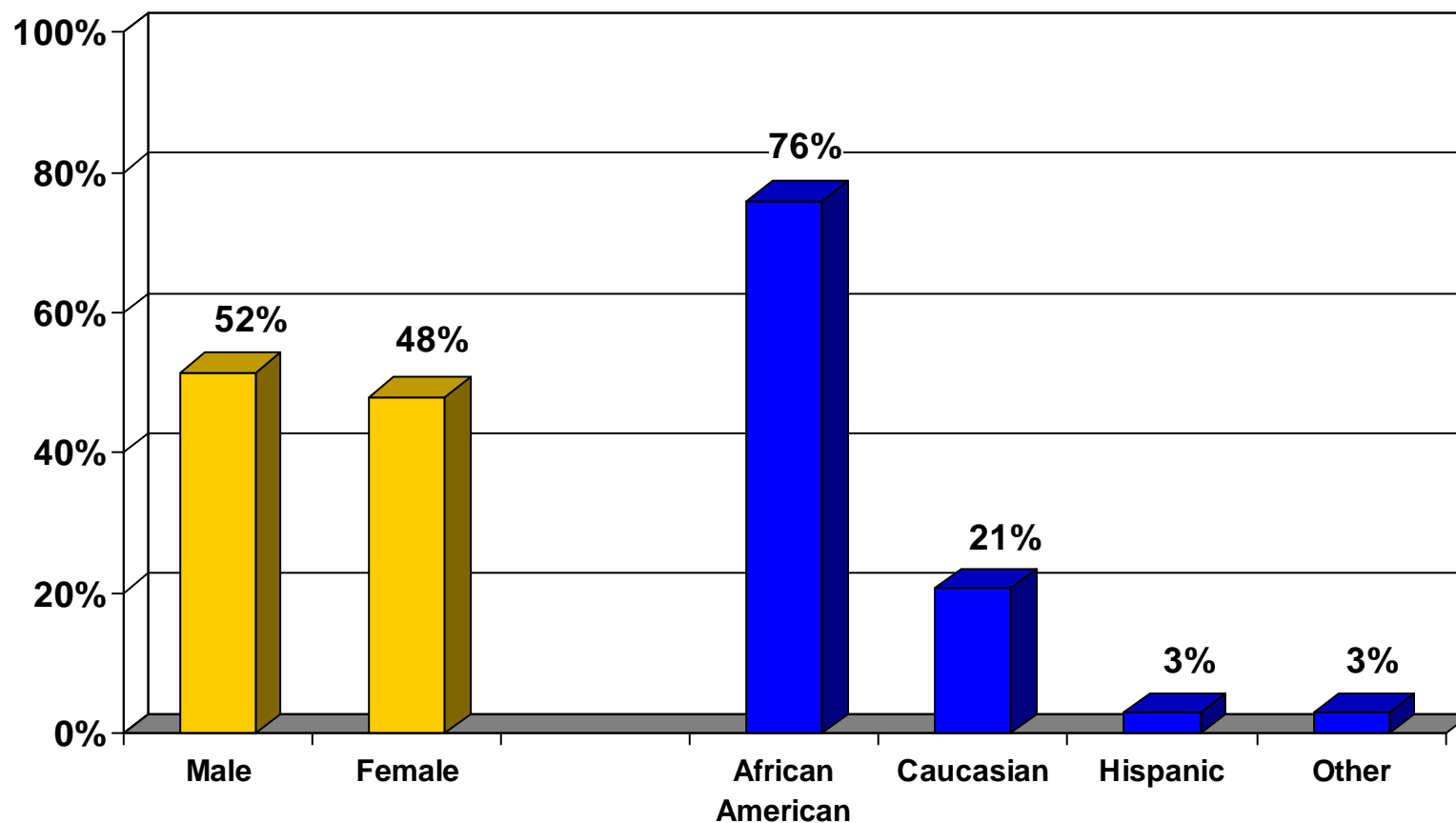


Greensboro Transitional Living Program

Demographics

Youth served through September 2010

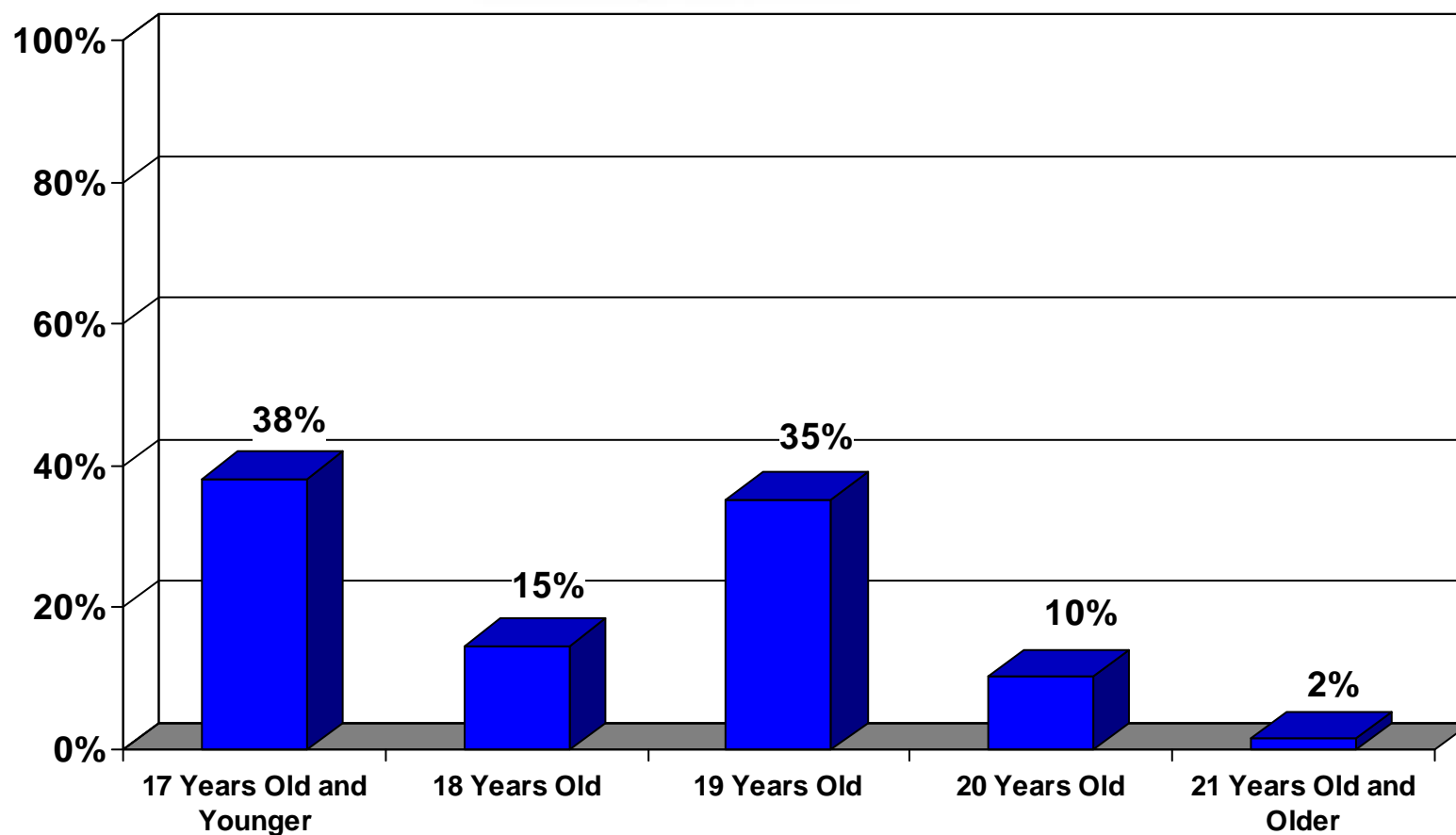
N = 68



Gender

Race/Ethnicity

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The program focuses on the following areas:

- Permanency
- Education
- Employment
- Housing
- Independent Living Skills
- Pregnancy Prevention

After discharge, follow-up surveys are conducted at 6, 12 and 24 months to collect data in the following areas:

- Maintenance of stable housing
- Criminal/legal involvement
- Employment
- Social Support/Basic Life Skills

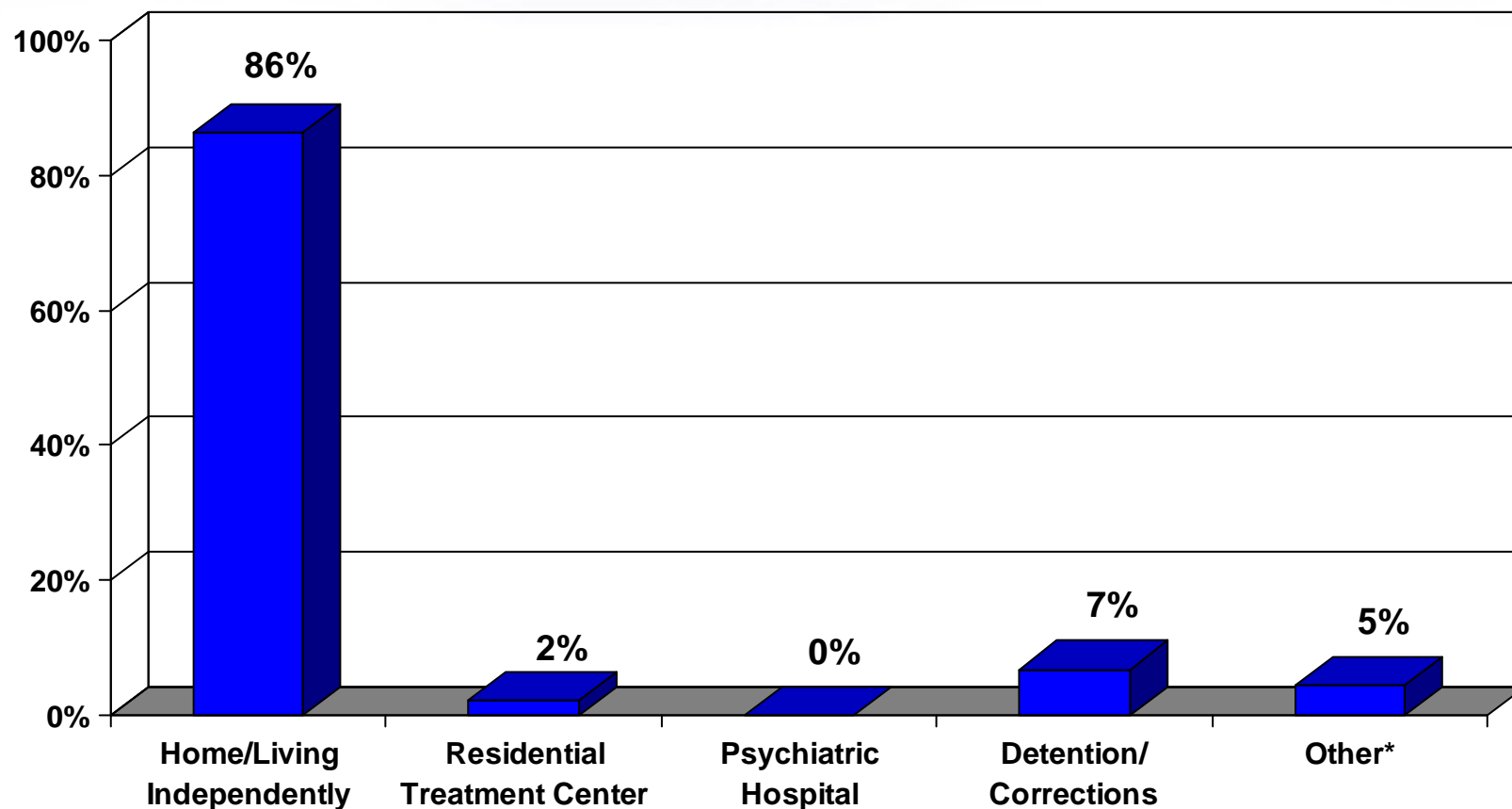


Greensboro Transitional Living Program

Discharge Location

Youth discharged October 2008 through September 2010

N = 38



*Only includes youth who received at least 60 days of service; 14.0% (6 out of 44) of admissions ended prior to 60 days.

*Other includes placements such as group homes, runaway, foster care and rehab centers

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Benefits to Youths and the State

In comparison with their peers, foster youth are, on average:

- less likely to have a high school diploma,
- less likely to be pursuing higher education,
- less likely to be earning a living wage,
- more likely to have experienced economic hardships,
- more likely to have had a child outside of wedlock, and
- more likely to become involved with the criminal justice system.¹

The Challenge

	Secondary Education	Post-Secondary Education	Early Pregnancy	Crime
Foster Youth	25% have not obtained a HS diploma or GED by 21	10%-30% enroll in college	71% of female foster youth have been pregnant by age 21	66% of the foster care population had been arrested by the age of 21
General Population	13% of 20-24 yrs old have not graduated	60% attend college	33% of females had ever been pregnant by age 21	12% of the general population had been arrested by the age of 21

- Over a lifetime, an 18 yr old who does not complete high school earns approximately **\$260,000** less than an individual with a high school diploma and contributes about **\$60,000** less in lifetime federal and state taxes.³

³ The Labor Market Consequences of an Inadequate Education, Rouse September 2005



All benchmarks on the previous slides come from the Chapin Hall study cited below.

Courtney, M., Dworsky, A., Cusick, G., Havlicek, J, Perez, A., & Keller, T. (2007) Midwest evaluation of the adult functioning of former foster youth: Outcomes at age 21. Chicago: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.



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